

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: LATEX GLOVES

: MDL Docket No. 1148
PRODUCTS LIABILITY :
LITIGATION : This Document Relates
: To All Cases

CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER No. 1-A
APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL MASTER

AND NOW, this 29th day of April, 1997, Perry S. Bechtle,¹
Esquire is hereby appointed Special Master, Fed. R. Civ. P. 53, for
the following purposes:

1. Administrative supervision of the deposition-
discovery schedule in the event of disputes not resolved promptly
by the parties.

2. Mediation of specific discovery disputes as may
arise under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26, 31, 34-36, and 45,² together with
such other disputes as may be referred by the Court.

3. Monitoring the progress of discovery under Case
Management Orders and making reports at least monthly, together

1. Mr. Bechtle, a highly respected Philadelphia attorney and
member of the bar since 1952, is retired from active practice. His
resume is attached.

2. See E.D. Pa. Local R. 26.1(f) (Discovery) ("No motion or other
application . . . shall be made unless it contains a certification
of counsel that the parties, after reasonable effort, are unable to
resolve the dispute.").

with recommendations, as needed, to facilitate and obtain compliance with orders and policies.

To accomplish this assignment, the Special Master shall have the powers enumerated in Fed. R. Civ. P. 53(c) and (d), including without limitation -

(A) To review all papers filed or submitted relating to discovery and other, referred disputes;

(B) To schedule and conduct any meetings, conferences, or hearings necessary to consider and resolve such disputes; and

(C) To prepare and submit reports as required by this order.

The Special Master shall begin his duties on April 29, 1997. The Special Master is authorized to incur such fees and costs as are reasonably necessary to carry out the assignments referred to in this order. The Special Master shall submit applications for fees and costs as part of the monthly report. Such applications shall contain sufficient information to assist the Court in allocating payment among the parties, including any instances of unreasonable refusal or lack of cooperation or unreasonably engaging in or creating a dispute.

All of the Special Master's reports, including applications for fees and costs, shall be served on liaison counsel and such other counsel as are designated by the Court.

All rulings of the Special Master, if accepted by the parties, will be confirmed in writing. All rulings of the Special Master not accepted by any party shall be submitted to the Court as a "Recommended Order" and served on the parties' designated counsel. A party or parties opposing the "Recommended Order" shall have seven (7) calendar days from receipt within which to submit an objection. If no objection is submitted within that time period, the Recommended Order will be deemed to have been accepted and, as such, may be filed by the Court as a Court order.

Edmund V. Ludwig, J.